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			EXAMINER SMITH, PETER J	
			ART UNIT 2176	PAPER NUMBER

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/237,828

Applicant(s)

HENDRICKS ET AL.

Examiner

Peter J Smith

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: application filed on 1/27/1999, IDS filed on 8/28/2002.
2. Claims 1-79 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 30, and 56 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. **Claims 1-4, 15, 17-18, 30-34, 48-50, 56-57, 64, 68, 71-74, and 78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by DeRose et al. (hereafter referred to as DeRose), US 5,557,722.**

Regarding independent claim 1, DeRose discloses an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose also discloses links between the components of the digital data, wherein the links are activated, a first component is connected to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose calls the components elements. The elements are arranged in a tree structure may link to none, one, or a plurality of other elements. The elements may be both text or non-text objects.

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Regarding dependent claim 2, DeRose discloses wherein the first and second components are located in one electronic book in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

Regarding dependent claim 3, DeRose discloses wherein the one electronic book includes a main portion and the second component is located in one of the index, the table of contents and the glossary in fig. 3, 12, and 13. DeRose shows a body element which links to a plurality of chapters in fig. 3. DeRose shows a table of contents in fig. 12. DeRose shows and index of the electronic book components in fig. 13.

Regarding dependent claim 4, DeRose discloses wherein the first component is located in the main portion and the second component is located in one of the index, the table of contents and the glossary in fig. 3 and fig. 12. DeRose shows a main table of contents component which links to be multiple secondary components in fig. 12.

Regarding dependent claim 15, DeRose discloses a first display showing an image corresponding to a page of a book, and wherein the second component is displayed as an overlay on the first display in fig. 12-14. The text view windows of DeRose correspond to pages of a book and a selected linked second component can be displayed as an overlay on the first display in DeRose.

Regarding dependent claim 17, DeRose discloses a display showing an image corresponding to a page of a book, and wherein when a link is activated, the image being shown on the first display is rescaled and redirected to be shown in a first window and the second component is displayed in a second window adjacent to the first window in fig. 12-14. The

components DeRose are in separate windows and the claimed limitation describes window tiling, which is a featured method of displaying multiple content windows.

Regarding dependent claim 18, DeRose discloses a first display that displays a first image corresponding to a first page of a book and a second display that displays a second image corresponding to a second page of a book, and wherein when a link is activated, the second component is displayed in of the first and the second display and the first component is displayed in one of the first and the second display in fig. 12-14. DeRose displays components in windows and the windows may be updated with a new content component as described in the claimed limitation.

Regarding independent claim 30, DeRose discloses identifying a first location in a first electronic book, associating a first electronic file with the first location, wherein the associating step creates a first electronic link, and repeating the identifying and associating steps, the repeated steps creating electronic links in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose calls the components elements. The elements selectively linked to none, one, or a plurality of other elements to form a tree structure. The elements may be both text or non-text objects. When the elements have all been properly linked, the electronic book is complete. DeRose discloses activating the first electronic link by selecting the first location, the activating step causing the first electronic file to be displayed in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. A user of the completed electronic book may activate links from each component to display subsequent component electronic files.

Regarding dependent claim 31, DeRose discloses a data processing system for generating a representation of an electronic book document in fig. 1-3, 5, 12-14, the abstract, col.

7 line 15 – col. 8 line 5, and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. The data processing system is the same as the claimed electronic book unit, which is a specialized system for displaying electronic books.

Regarding dependent claim 32, DeRose discloses a memory that stores the electronic books and selected electronic files, a display that displays the electronic books and the electronic files, a control unit adapted to receive commands from a user, and a controller that controls operation of the electronic book unit and activation of the electronic links in fig. 1-2 and col. 7 line 15 – col. 8 line 5.

Regarding dependent claim 33, DeRose discloses a location in an index of an electronic book, and wherein activation of the first link displays a page of the first electronic book associated with the location in the index in fig. 12-14. A link selected from index displays the page associated with the link.

Regarding dependent claim 34, DeRose discloses a location in a table of contents of the electronic book, and wherein activation of the first link displays a page of the first electronic book associated with the location in the index in fig. 12-14. A link selected from table of contents displays the page associated with the link.

Regarding dependent claim 48, DeRose discloses wherein a selected electronic file is displayed in an overlay on a page of the first electronic link having the selected first location in fig. 12-14.

Regarding dependent claim 49, DeRose discloses wherein a selected electronic file is displayed in a window to accompany the window of the first electronic link having a select first location. The windows can be displayed side by side.

Regarding dependent claim 50, DeRose discloses wherein the activating step comprises operating a pointing device and a cursor to highlight the first location and operating a select button to select the first location in fig. 12-14.

Regarding independent claim 56, DeRose discloses displaying a linked first component of an electronic book, selecting the first component, and displaying a second component linked to the first component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

Regarding dependent claim 57, DeRose discloses wherein the second component is a portion of the electronic book in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

Regarding dependent claim 64, DeRose discloses a data processing system for generating a representation of an electronic book document in fig. 1-3, 5, 12-14, the abstract, col. 7 line 15 – col. 8 line 5, and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. The data processing system is an electronic book viewer.

Regarding dependent claim 68, DeRose discloses a data processing system for generating a representation of an electronic book document in fig. 1-3, 5, 12-14, the abstract, col. 7 line 15 – col. 8 line 5, and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. The data processing system is a personal computer.

Regarding dependent claim 71, DeRose discloses displaying the linked second component in a window in fig. 12-14. The window may be minimized, or hidden.

Regarding dependent claim 72, DeRose discloses displaying the linked second component in a window in fig. 12-14. The window may be minimized, or hidden, and then restored to reveal the window once again.

Regarding dependent claim 73, DeRose discloses wherein when the second component is displayed, the second component shows links to third components in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

Regarding dependent claim 74, DeRose discloses wherein a user of the electronic book created links between first and second components in col. 23 lines 54-67.

Regarding dependent claim 78, DeRose discloses wherein the second component is cross-linked to a third component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 16, 19-25, 45-47, 67, 75, and 79 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. (hereafter referred to as DeRose), US 5,557,722.**

Regarding dependent claim 16, DeRose discloses a first display showing an image corresponding to a page of a book, and wherein the second component is displayed on the first display in fig. 12-14. DeRose does not explicitly show that the second component is displayed in a picture-in-picture format on the first display. The components displayed in DeRose have more freedom than a picture-in-picture layout. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified DeRose to have created the claimed

invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have displayed the second component in a picture-in-picture format on the display so that the second component would have been automatically positioned near the first component so that the user would have observed both components simultaneously.

Regarding dependent claim 19, DeRose teaches a help menu, wherein the help menu provides instructions for using the menu system in fig. 13. DeRose teaches displaying types of links including text and non-text objects in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly show a links menu which shows the types of links that may be selected. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used a menu to show available link types for a selected location to a user so that the links would have been easily seen and easily selectable by the user.

Regarding dependent claim 20, DeRose teaches wherein each component on a page of the electronic book may have one or more links to another component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

Regarding dependent claim 21, DeRose teaches displaying types of links including text and non-text objects for a selected page in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches highlighting selecting link types in col. 22 line 58 – col. 23 line 15. DeRose does not explicitly show a links menu which shows the types of links that may be selected. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been

obvious and desirable to have used a menu to show available link types for a selected location to a user so that the links would have been easily seen and easily selectable by the user.

Regarding dependent claim 22, DeRose teaches wherein linked components are highlights by displaying the linked components in a first color different from a second color for remaining information in col. 22 line 58 – col. 23 line 15.

Regarding dependent claim 23, DeRose teaches wherein linked components are displayed in a font different from a font used to display the page in col. 22 line 58 – col. 23 line 15.

Regarding dependent claim 24, DeRose teaches wherein linked components are highlighted by displaying the linked components in one of a bold typeface, an italics typeface, and underlined in col. 22 line 58 – col. 23 line 15.

Regarding dependent claim 25, DeRose teaches wherein a desired link is activated by selecting a desired highlighted component using a cursor and operating a select button in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24.

Regarding dependent claim 45, DeRose teaches providing all the links associated with a selected location in the first electronic link in fig. 12-14. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the links are selected through use of a menu. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used a menu to show available links for a selected location to a user so that the links would have been easily seen and easily selectable by the user.

Regarding dependent claim 46, DeRose teaches wherein a desired electronic link is selected from displayed available links for a selected location in fig. 12-14.

Regarding dependent claim 47, DeRose teaches a selectable look-up feature which displays available electronic link types for a displayed page in the electronic book, and wherein when a desired electronic link type is selected, all available electronic links corresponding to the desired electronic link type are displayed on the page in fig. 12-14.

Regarding dependent claim 67, DeRose discloses a data processing system for generating a representation of an electronic book document in fig. 1-3, 5, 12-14, the abstract, col. 7 line 15 – col. 8 line 5, and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. The data processing system includes a monitor for display. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified DeRose to have used a television for a display so a wider array of devices would have served as the display for the electronic book system.

Regarding dependent claim 75, DeRose teaches a collection of interlinked components composing an electronic book in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly state that the components are stored in a database. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified DeRose to have stored the components and linked them in a database because databases are the normal way to store large collections of data. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used a relational database to have increased the access time to the components contained in the database.

Regarding dependent claim 79, DeRose does not explicitly show that the link between two components is a two way link. DeRose does teach a cross-reference link in fig. 3. It would

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have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious to have used the teaching of the cross-reference link from DeRose to have created a two way link between two components of the electronic book so that the user would have easily and directly traversed the book from one component to the other and vice versa.

7. Claims 5-6, 35-38, 43-44, and 58-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. (hereafter referred to as DeRose), US 5,557,722 in view of Reed et al. (hereafter referred to as Reed), US 5,241,671 filed 10/26/1989.

Regarding dependent claims 5 and 6, DeRose teaches linking first and second components together in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the first component is located in a first electronic book and wherein the second component is located in a second electronic book or wherein the second component is one of a dictionary, foreign language dictionary, and a technical dictionary. Reed does teach a first component which is located in a first electronic book and linked to a second component which is located in a second electronic book and wherein the second component is one of a dictionary, foreign language dictionary, and a technical dictionary in col. 14 lines 22-53.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have linked a component in one book to a component in another book to receive additional benefit from the second book that the first book would not

have provided to the user. This is evident Reed where the dictionary assists the user in learning the definition of a word which he or she is not familiar with.

Regarding dependent claims 35, DeRose teaches linking first and second components together in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein a word or phrase is located in a first electronic book and wherein the electronic file is in a location in a dictionary that defines the word or the phrase. Reed does teach wherein a word or phrase is located in a first electronic book and wherein the electronic file is in a location in a dictionary that defines the word or the phrase in col. 14 lines 22-53.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have linked a component in one book to a component in another book to receive additional benefit from the second book that the first book would not have provided to the user. This is evident Reed where the dictionary assists the user in learning the definition of a word which he or she is not familiar with.

Regarding dependent claim 36, DeRose teaches linking first and second components together in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein when the first link is activated, the audio unit provides an audio presentation giving a pronunciation of the word or the phrase. Reed does teach wherein when the first link is activated, the audio unit provides an audio presentation giving a pronunciation of the word or the phrase in col. 13 lines 57-62.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would

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have been obvious and desirable to have used the audio presentation of Reed to have improved DeRose so that the user would have had an ability to learn how words in the electronic book are pronounced.

Regarding dependent claims 37 and 38, DeRose teaches linking first and second components together in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the electronic file is displayed in a foreign language or wherein the electronic book includes a foreign language selection feature, and wherein the electronic book unit activates a selected foreign language dictionary based on an input from the foreign language selection feature. Reed teaches linking a file to a dictionary to increase the user's understanding of the file in col. 14 lines 22-53.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have provided a selection of foreign dictionaries to help a user translate a linked foreign file so that the user could completely understand the text of the electronic book.

Regarding dependent claim 43, DeRose teaches linking a first component to an electronic file in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the first component is located in a first electronic book and wherein the electronic file is located in a second electronic book. Reed does teach wherein the first component is located in a first electronic book and wherein the electronic file is located in a second electronic book in col. 14 lines 22-53.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have linked a component in one book to an electronic file in another book to receive additional benefit from the second book that the first book would not have provided to the user. This is evident Reed where the dictionary assists the user in learning the definition of a word which he or she is not familiar with.

Regarding dependent claim 44, DeRose teaches a data processing system for generating a representation of an electronic book document in fig. 1-3, 5, 12-14, the abstract, col. 7 line 15 – col. 8 line 5, and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. The data processing system is the same as the claimed electronic book unit, which is a specialized system for displaying electronic books.

Regarding dependent claims 58 and 59, DeRose teaches linking first and second components together in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the first component is located in a first electronic book and wherein the second component is located in a second electronic book or wherein the second component is one of a dictionary, encyclopedia, and a foreign language dictionary. Reed does teach a first component which is located in a first electronic book and linked to a second component which is located in a second electronic book and wherein the second component is one of a dictionary, encyclopedia, and a foreign language dictionary in col. 14 lines 22-53.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Reed into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have linked a component in one book to a component in another book to receive additional benefit from the second book that the first book would not

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have provided to the user. This is evident Reed where the dictionary assists the user in learning the definition of a word which he or she is not familiar with.

8. Claims 7-9, 13-14, 26-27, 39-42, 51-52, 60-63, 65-66, and 76-77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. (hereafter referred to as DeRose), US 5,557,722 in view of Bernstein et al. (hereafter referred to as Bernstein), US 5,204,947 filed 10/31/1990.

Regarding dependent claim 7, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 8, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a

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database located at an operations center. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database wherein the database is located at an operation center in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database located in an operation center so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 9, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database located at an Internet web site. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database wherein the database is located at an Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database located at an Internet web site so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 13, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in

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the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component an Internet web site. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located over a wide area network such as an Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to an Internet web site so that the information would have been easily changed, modified, and updated. The Examiner notes that simply inserted a hyperlink into one of the content components of DeRose would have formed a link to an Internet web site as well.

Regarding dependent claim 14, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the Internet web site includes an address of one or more news groups related to the first component. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located over a wide area network such as an Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the linked Internet web site of Bernstein to have provided access to related news groups so that the user would have had access to a medium for communicating ideas with other users about the electronic book.

Regarding dependent claim 26, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches that the components may be non-text objects, but does not explicitly teach that the second component is an audio presentation. Bernstein does teach that the second component is an audio presentation in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the audio presentation linking of Bernstein to have enhanced the non-text object linking of DeRose so that the user would have gained additional experience and entertainment compared to merely reading text.

Regarding dependent claim 27, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches that the components may be non-text objects, but does not explicitly teach that the second component is an video presentation. Bernstein does teach that the second component is an video presentation in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the video presentation linking of Bernstein to have enhanced the non-text object linking of DeRose so that the user would have gained additional experience and entertainment compared to merely reading text.

Regarding dependent claim 39, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in

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the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database on a telecommunications network. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66. Bernstein teaches that the database may be in on a telecommunications network in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database on a telecommunications network so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 40, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the telecommunications medium includes one of a plain old telephone system, a cable television system, a wireless telephone system, a digital satellite television system, a fiber optic system, an ethernet, and a wireless television system. Bernstein does teach wherein the telecommunications medium includes one of a plain old telephone system, a cable television system, a wireless telephone system, a digital satellite television system, a fiber optic system, an ethernet, and a wireless television system in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It

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would have been obvious to use an ethernet for the telecommunications medium so that the electronic file would have been transmitted efficiently to the user.

Regarding dependent claim 41, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database located at an Internet web site. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database wherein the database is located at an Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database located at an Internet web site so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 42, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database located at an Internet web site. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to an Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It

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would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to an Internet web site so that related information would have been maintained at the web site and would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 51, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches that the components may be non-text objects, but does not explicitly teach that the second component is an audio presentation. Bernstein does teach that the second component is an audio presentation in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the audio presentation linking of Bernstein to have enhanced the non-text object linking of DeRose so that the user would have gained additional experience and entertainment compared to merely reading text.

Regarding dependent claim 52, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose teaches that the components may be non-text objects, but does not explicitly teach that the second component is an video presentation. Bernstein does teach that the second component is an video presentation in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the video presentation linking of Bernstein to have enhanced the

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non-text object linking of DeRose so that the user would have gained additional experience and entertainment compared to merely reading text.

Regarding dependent claim 60, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 61, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database located at an operations center. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database wherein the database is located at an operation center in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It

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would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database located in an operation center so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 62, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the second component is located in a database located at an Internet web site. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database wherein the database is located at an Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to link a component to a second component in a database located at an Internet web site so that the second component would have been easily changed, modified, or updated.

Regarding dependent claim 63, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the Internet web site includes an address of one or more news groups related to the first component. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to a second component located in a database wherein the database is located at an Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the linked Internet web site of Bernstein to have provided access to related news groups so that the user would have had access to a medium for communicating ideas with other users about the electronic book.

Regarding dependent claim 65, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the second component is an external communications device. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to an external communications device so that linked data can be shared over a wide area network in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to connect to an external communication device so that more information related to the electronic book would have been obtained by a link to the wide area network via the external communications device.

Regarding dependent claim 66, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the second component is an external communications telephone device. Bernstein does teach linking a first component to an external

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communications telephone device so that linked data can be shared over a wide area network in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to connect to an external communication telephone device so that more information related to the electronic book would have been obtained by a link to the wide area network via the external communications device.

Regarding dependent claim 76, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach wherein the links linking the first and the second components are refreshed by data provided by an external facility. Bernstein teaches wherein the links linking the first and the second components are refreshed by data provided by an external facility in fig. 3-4 and col. 8 lines 17-66.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to refresh the links by an external facility so that the links would have been easily and conveniently managed and updated.

Regarding dependent claim 77, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in

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the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not explicitly teach that the external facility is an operations center or Internet web site. Bernstein does teach that the external facility is an operations center or Internet web site in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the ability of Bernstein to refresh the links by an external facility which is an operations center or an Internet web site so that the links would have been easily and conveniently managed and updated.

9. Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. (hereafter referred to as DeRose), US 5,557,722 in view of Bernstein et al. (hereafter referred to as Bernstein), US 5,204,947 filed 10/31/1990 as applied to claim 7 above, and further in view of Saigh, US 5,734,891 continuation of application filed 11/4/1991.

Regarding dependent claim 10, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach that the database includes a list of available books related to the first component, wherein one or more of the available books may be ordered for delivery. Saigh does teach providing a link from an electronic book to a database including a list of

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available books, wherein one or more of the available books may be ordered for delivery in fig. 8, the abstract, and col. 11 line 15 – col. 12 line 38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Saigh and Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the networked database linking of Bernstein and the database of available books taught by Saigh to have improved DeRose so that the user would have easily and conveniently retrieved more books of similar interest to the first electronic book.

Regarding dependent claim 11, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach that available books are electronic books, and wherein the electronic books are delivered by transmission over a telecommunications medium. Bernstein teaches transmitted linked information over a wide area network, such as over a telecommunications medium in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1. Saigh teaches delivering electronic books to a user, but not over a telecommunications medium in fig. 8, the abstract, and col. 11 line 15 – col. 12 line 38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Saigh and Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the telecommunication medium of Bernstein to have transmitted the available electronic books provided by Saigh to

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have enabled the user of the electronic book reader of DeRose to have easily and conveniently obtained a new electronic book.

Regarding dependent claim 12, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach wherein the telecommunications medium includes one of a plain old telephone system, a cable television system, a wireless telephone system, a digital satellite television system, a fiber optic system, an ethernet, and a wireless television system. Bernstein does teach wherein the telecommunications medium includes one of a plain old telephone system, a cable television system, a wireless telephone system, a digital satellite television system, a fiber optic system, an ethernet, and a wireless television system in col. 6 line 63 – col. 7 line 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Saigh and Bernstein into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious to use an ethernet for the telecommunications medium so that the electronic book would have been transmitted efficiently to the user.

10. Claims 28-29, 53-55, and 69-70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. (hereafter referred to as DeRose), US 5,557,722 in view of Saigh, US 5,734,891 continuation of application filed 11/4/1991.

Regarding dependent claims 28 and 29, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a

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first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach linking to location where electronic book products can be ordered and purchased. Saigh does teach linking an electronic book to a location where electronic book products can be ordered and purchased in fig. 8, the abstract, and col. 11 line 15 – col. 12 line 38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Saigh into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the electronic book product purchasing ability of Saigh to have improved the linking of DeRose so that the link would have enabled the user to purchases additional electronic books related to the current book the user was reading.

Regarding dependent claims 53-55, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach linking to location where electronic book products can be ordered and purchased. Saigh does teach linking an electronic book to a location where electronic book products can be ordered and purchased in fig. 8, the abstract, and col. 11 line 15 – col. 12 line 38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Saigh into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the electronic book product purchasing ability of Saigh to have improved the linking of DeRose so that the link would have enabled the user to purchases additional electronic books related to the current book the user was reading.

Regarding dependent claims 69-70, DeRose teaches an electronic book, the electronic book including components of digital data that represent information and linking a first component in the electronic book to a second component in fig. 3, 5, 12-14, the abstract and col. 3 line 12 – col. 6 line 24. DeRose does not teach linking to location where electronic book products can be ordered and purchased. Saigh does teach linking an electronic book to a location where electronic book products can be ordered and purchased in fig. 8, the abstract, and col. 11 line 15 – col. 12 line 38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined Saigh into DeRose to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have used the electronic book product purchasing ability of Saigh to have improved the linking of DeRose so that the link would have enabled the user to purchases additional electronic books related to the current book the user was reading.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Cohen et al., US 5,367,621 filed 9/6/1991 discloses providing a generalized link from a reference point to in an on-line book to an arbitrary multimedia object. Covington et al., US 5,524,193 continuation filed 10/15/1991 discloses annotated a selection of text with a multimedia event. Tsai, US 5,495,581 filed 10/15/1993 discloses linking a document with associated reference information. Barker et al., US 5,130,924 patented 7/14/1992 discloses defining relationships among document elements. Jordan, US 4,982,344 patented 1/1/1991 discloses accelerating link creation.

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12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter J Smith whose telephone number is 703-305-5931. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays 7:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H Feild can be reached on 703-305-9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PJS
August 20, 2004



**SANJIV SHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER**